

2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

6 May 2010
English
Original: Chinese

New York, 1-28 May 2010

Nuclear disarmament and reduction of the danger of nuclear war

Working paper submitted by China

The Chinese delegation hereby requests that the following elements be included in the report of Main Committee I and the final document of the Review Conference:

1. Pursuing a new security concept featuring mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality and coordination, fostering a peaceful and stable international security environment, resolving international disputes through peaceful means and increasing the sense of security for all countries constitute the basis for the progress of nuclear disarmament.
2. Fully respecting and accommodating the legitimate and reasonable security concerns of all countries, refraining from pursuing one's own security at the expense of others and ensuring security for all through win-win cooperation constitute the precondition of the progress of nuclear disarmament.
3. Adhering to multilateralism, maintaining and enhancing the authority, universality and effectiveness of strong multilateral institutions and treaties, strengthening international legal framework governing arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation on the right path is advancing international arms control and disarmament, including nuclear disarmament.
4. The relationship among nuclear disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and peaceful use of nuclear energy should be properly handled, so as to make them mutually complementary and reinforcing.
5. All nuclear-weapon States should fulfill their obligation in the goal of complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons, seriously fulfil their obligations under article VI of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, and publicly undertake to or seek to pursue processes of nuclear weapons.
6. Nuclear disarmament undertakings, including intermediate steps and comprehensive measures, should follow the guidelines of promoting global strategic stability and international security for all, and should be conducive to promoting international peace and security.

7. States possessing the largest nuclear arsenals bear special responsibility for nuclear disarmament and should take the lead in drastically reducing their nuclear arsenals in a verifiable, irreversible and legally binding way, so as to create necessary conditions for the ultimate realization of complete and thorough nuclear disarmament.

8. The Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty is an important step in the nuclear disarmament process. Countries that have not done so should sign and ratify the Treaty as soon as possible so that it may enter into force at its early date according to relevant provisions. Pending the entry into force of the Treaty, nuclear weapon States should continue to observe their commitments on nuclear explosion tests.

9. The Conference on Disarmament should, based on its programme of work, start at an early date the negotiation of a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices. Simultaneously, it should also begin collective work on important issues such as nuclear disarmament, prevention of weaponization of and an arms race in outer space and negative security assurances.

10. When conditions are ripe, other nuclear weapon States should also join the multilateral negotiations on nuclear disarmament. To attain the ultimate goal of complete and thorough nuclear disarmament, the international community should develop, at an appropriate time, a viable long-term plan composed of phased actions, including the conclusion of a convention on the complete prohibition of nuclear weapons.

11. Development and deployment of global security systems, which underpin global strategic stability and international cooperation in this regard, should not be carried out so as to avoid impeding international nuclear disarmament efforts. The Conference on Disarmament in Geneva should negotiate and conclude relevant international legal instruments as soon as possible so as to prevent the weaponization of and an arms race in outer space.

12. The following measures should be undertaken to promote nuclear disarmament, reduce the danger of nuclear war and diminish the role of nuclear weapons in national security policy:

(a) To abandon the nuclear deterrence policy based on first use of nuclear weapons;

(b) To honour their commitments not to target first nuclear weapons against any country, or to first use nuclear weapons as targets of nuclear strikes;

(c) To undertake not to be the first to use nuclear weapons at any time or under any circumstances, unconditionally not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear weapon States or nuclear weapon-free zones, and to conclude relevant international legal instruments;

(d) To support efforts of relevant countries and regions in establishing nuclear weapon-free zones and other weapons-of-mass-destruction-free zones in accordance with the regional conditions and on the basis of voluntary consultation and agreement;

(e) Countries that deploy nuclear weapons abroad should withdraw and repatriate all such weapons;

(f) To abandon the policy and practice of "nuclear umbrella" and "nuclear sharing";

(g) To take all necessary steps to avoid accidental or unauthorized launches of nuclear weapons.

13. Reducing the universality of the Non-Proliferation Treaty and enhancing its authority is of extreme importance. Countries that have not yet done so should accede to the Treaty as non-nuclear weapon States at an early date.